Attorney*Docket No. PD26112 Client Matter No. 68854.0061

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Bruning III, et al.

Serial No. 09/286,160

Filed: April 5, 1999

APPARATUS AND METHOD

FOR PROVIDING VERY LARGE VIRTUAL STORAGE VOLUMES **USING REDUNDANT ARRAYS**

OF DISKS

Examiner: Kimberly N. McLean

Art Unit: 2187

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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

BOX AF Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the final office communication mailed July 1, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 9.

Please amend claims 1, 6, 8, 13 and 14 as follows:

- (Amended) An apparatus for providing a virtual volume, the 1. apparatus comprising:
 - a first plurality of disks;
- a second plurality of back-end controllers coupled to the first plurality of disks for organizing and presenting the first plurality of disks as a third plurality of redundant arrays of disks; and